and property due to cyclone in Kandla and other districts of Gujarat;

(b) whether the commission has been appointed and if so, whether it has submitted its report;

(c) if so, details of the action taken report; and

(d) if not, the time by which it would submit report?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDARLAL PATWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) No Commission was appointed, however, subsequent to the cyclone in Gujarat in June, 1998, a High Level Fact Finding Team was constituted to find out as to how in the light of the sequence of events high loss of life had taken place, particularly in the Kandla area, and to draw lessons for better preparedness, coordination etc. for coping with such natural disasters in future. The Team had submitted its report and made several recommendations pertaining to the Government of Gujarat, India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Surface Transport and other Departments/agencies. The concerned Departments/agencies have taken action on the recommendations relating to them.

Malpractices in Prices of LPG

*548. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest price of LPG domestic connections with single and double cylinders;

(b) whether it is justified that most of the agents of LPG domestic. Domestic suppliers in Assam have charged the customers for new connections of Rs. 3000 or more; and

(c) if not, how Government will prevent such malpractices by the agents?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Public Sector Oil Companies issue domestic LPG connections against the payment of security deposit as indicated below in the country except North-Eastern region:-

FOR SINGLE CYLINDER CONNECTION

Refundable security deosit for one Cylinder —Rs. 900

Refundable security deposit for one Pressure Regulator —Rs. 100

FOR DOUBLE CYLINDER CONNECTION

Refundable security deposit for two cylinders —Rs. 1800

Refundable security deposit for one Pressure Regulator —Rs. 100

*In the North-Eastern region, the rate of security deposit for a single cylinder is Rs. 500 and Rs. 50 for a pressure regulater and Rs. 1000 for two cylinders.

In addition to above, the following service charges are allowed to be collected by the distributor at the time of release of new connection:—

(i)	Inspection of hot plate charges	Rs. 100/-
(ii)	Installation charges	Rs. 10/-
(iii)	charges for domestic gas consumer card	Rs. 10/-

(b) Oil companies have not received such complaint against their distributors in the year 1999-2000. However, during the year 1998-99, one of the distributors of Indian Oil Corporation in Assam was found charging unauthorised amount from the customers. The delinquent distributor was penalised with a penalty of Rs. 5000 in accordance with the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 1994,. Further, a criminal case has also been registered against him.

(c) Regular check of the LPG distributors is carried out by officers of the
oil companies at different levels If any distributor is found indulging in any malpractice /irregularity, action is initiated against such a distributor for the established malpractice/irregularity, depending upon its nature.

Rehabilitation Package for Super Cyclone Victims in Orissa

*549. SHRI GANDHI AZAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the rehabilitation package formulated by the Task Force constituted for super cyclone in Orissa;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the affected villages people are taking shelter under polythene-covers and reports of sun-stroke death have begun; and